(*a*) whether a record is maintained in the Huzur Office to register the names of applicants for appointments to the superior grade in the several departments of the State ;

(*b*) whether there is any rule requiring heads of departments to forward to the Huzur Office periodical lists of such applicants ; and

(*c*) whether the Government scrutinise the selections for appointments made by heads of departments from those lists ?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answers to parts (*a*) and (*b*)

Timber Supply Contractors.

228. MR. A. GOVINDA MENON (*Alangad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(1) whether there is no rule that timber supply contractors or their relatives should not deal in timber ; and

(2) whether most of the contractors for the extraction of timber or their near relatives are not also dealers in timber ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) There is no rule to this effect, but when a supply contract is given to anyone, provision is made in the agreement that he or any undivided member of his joint family should not trade in timber during the currency of that contract.

(2) The answer is in the negative.

Abandoned Forest Roads.

229. MR. A. GOVINDA MENON (*Alangad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether there are any forest roads once constructed at great cost, but now lying practically abandoned, and in case there are such roads, whether they will give the length and location of such roads and the reasons for so abandoning them ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : It is reported that no forest roads opened at great cost are now lying abandoned.

Survey Plans of Reserve Forests.

230. MR. A. GOVINDA MENON (*Alangad* cum *Parur*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(1) whether plans have been prepared by competent survey authorities for any demarcated reserves in the State ;

(2) whether, in case such plans exist, they are available for sale to the public ;

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[Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.]

(3) whether Conservator Mr. Rama Rao, prepared a scheme for the demarcation of all settled reserves and for their exact location in the survey plans of the State, and whether, in case such a scheme was prepared, any action has been taken under it till now;

(4) whether the absence of such plans has not often rendered registering unreserved forests and locating the exact boundaries of reserved forests in forest cases extremely difficult in many cases; and

(5) whether, in view of the difficulties mentioned in part (4), the Government would take early steps to have such plans prepared by competent survey authorities?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(1) Correct maps for about seventy reserved forests have been prepared.

(2) The maps have not been printed and are not therefore available for sale to the public.

(3) The demarcation of reserves was being done even before the time of Mr. Rama Rao and he only issued circulars regarding the expeditious and proper execution of the same. The work is nearly over in respect of the settled reserves.

(4) No.

(5) The work is already being done by the Survey Department.

Encroachment on the Reserve Forests of the Northern Division.

231. MR. A. GOVINDA MENON (*Alangad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(1) the number of encroachments made into the reserved forests of the Northern Division in 1098; and

(2) the nature and result of the action taken in each case?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) and (2) It is reported that there was only one such case and that it related to trespass into a water channel in the Todupuzha Reserve for the purpose of irrigating a registered holding. It is also reported that, as the trespassers had only repaired an existing watercourse, and as they could at best be proceeded against only for lopping the branches and roots of a few small trees standing on its bank, the Divisional Forest Officer dropped the case after realising compensation.

Fish-curing Yard for Karunagapalli.

232. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that a large number of Arayas on the coastal tract of Karunagapalli depend for their living on the fish industry?

(*b*) Will they be pleased to open a fish-curing yard to help them?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Government will enquire

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